

## Education Planning Session – February 27, 2013

### Evidence of Success & Growth in Four Priority Areas

#### Priority One – Engaging Our Students

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leader in Me</li> <li>• Focus on rubrics rather than %</li> <li>• Club Moo</li> <li>• More peer assessment</li> <li>• Leadership Team</li> <li>• Student Advisory Council</li> <li>• Interact Club 55+ members (Rotary)</li> <li>• Sports teams</li> <li>• Special Interest Groups</li> <li>• Fundraising - SPC</li> <li>• Breakfast Program - SPC</li> <li>• Google</li> <li>• Option Courses - input from students</li> <li>• AISI Critical Thinking</li> <li>• PLC Days (high school)</li> <li>• Student led conferences</li> <li>• Forgotten Lunch - SPC</li> <li>• Threat Risk Assessment</li> <li>• New FNMI Admin. Procedure</li> <li>• Learning Coaches</li> <li>• Robotics competition</li> <li>• Increased discussion among stakeholders</li> <li>• Mentoring programs (boys &amp; girls club – gr. 4-9)</li> <li>• Options shared SPC &amp; HP (Band &amp; Performing Arts)</li> <li>• Threat Risk Assessment – supporting students in crisis by creating intervention plans for families</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CLICK Team</li> <li>• Accessing in-house expertise</li> <li>• Learning Leader Projects</li> <li>• Tell Them From Me survey</li> <li>• Student Wellness Action Team SWAT</li> <li>• Google Docs, Proto Pages, Blogs (kid)</li> <li>• 184 Day Project</li> <li>• FCSS Heroes Program</li> <li>• Learning Services Team</li> <li>• 1-1 Tablet Project</li> <li>• Nursery Rhyme Day</li> <li>• Honk for Hugs</li> <li>• Cave Assemblies (student led)</li> <li>• New reporting of student achievement</li> <li>• Increased understanding of assessment</li> <li>• Transitioning to middle &amp; high school</li> <li>• Hire great teachers</li> <li>• Self assessment</li> <li>• Breakfast &amp; nutrition programs</li> <li>• Community engagement</li> <li>• SEVEC Student Exchange</li> <li>• Multiple entries and exits for success</li> <li>• HS students explore, plan &amp; implement innovative ways to earn credits</li> <li>• Provide and follow-up on students interests</li> <li>• Guided learning classroom allows students to have supported work place to do outreach course to supplement program</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spirit Days (Buddy Day)</li> <li>• FM Systems</li> <li>• School Council</li> <li>• Talent Shows</li> <li>• Choral Celebration</li> <li>• Cultural, academics, athletics activities</li> <li>• BYOD</li> <li>• Creating leadership opportunities</li> <li>• Before &amp; after school care</li> <li>• Inviting pre-schools</li> <li>• Community basketball</li> <li>• Student oriented &amp; created options</li> <li>• Personalized Learning Time</li> <li>• H.S. model United Nations</li> <li>• Resiliency – anti-bullying days</li> <li>• Choice in education - programs</li> <li>• Involvement of volunteers</li> <li>• Student recognition</li> <li>• Positive reinforcement</li> <li>• Creative learning environments</li> <li>• Innovative mobile learning</li> <li>• Parent volunteers – reading programs</li> <li>• Flex Project – students determine space/pace of their learning</li> <li>• Flexibility in student programming allowing choice and voice</li> <li>• Resiliency Project – builds relationships, engages students, builds awareness of community/global</li> <li>• Increased technology access for all students</li> </ul> |
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#### Priority Two – Engaging Our Staff

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- New NVCI
- Response Team Intervention
- PSD blogs / 184 Days
- Learning Services mentoring and support for teachers & admin
- Connecting & collaborating within PSD using social media
- Building multi-disciplinary team (OT, SLP)
- Teams of teachers focusing on “best practices”. What does a successful student look like?”
- Learning Leader – learning about Google & blogging initiatives, building capacity
- Math Leadership – staff connects with Math experts to further develop Math process skills & strategies, then share with school staff
- Stepping Out Literacy Program for Gr. 6-12 – sharing strategies to empower students to interact effectively with text, audio, video information
- PLC time for staff
- Google Apps
- Value staff and let them know
- Wellness Champions
- Resiliency Projects (inservices, ideas, grants)
- Learning Services provides many PD opportunities for PSD staff
- Focus on authentic assessment / collaboration among staff
- Learning Services leadership (Workshops for teachers, admin & educational assistants)
- IPP Committee – developing forms and processes that engage staff in inclusion practices
- Youth Resiliency Project – opportunities for staff & students to receive support from community members
- *Bring IT Project* (2learn.ca) ML, SPC & MCHS working toward a shared vision & practice for student learning with personally owned devices. Emphasis placed upon PD needs of teachers
- Autism book study
- Peer observation
- 7 Habits
- Teachers facilitating PD for their own staff
- AISI assessment (interschool PD & collaboration)
- E.A. Boot Camps and collaborative PD days to exchange ideas with teachers
- Learning Coaches – engages all staff, promotes collaboration within & amongst staff
- Trauma follow-up – helping staff address and support their students in times of crisis
- Lighthouse Team (Leader in Me) Assists in guiding students in a variety of leadership opportunities
- Teacher Portal and wiki-based access to supports (easy to access, well-populated with useful resources and updated & relevant)

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### Evidence of Success & Growth in Four Priority Areas

#### Priority Three – Engaging Our Community

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- COSC
- Remind 101
- Horizon Stage
- Community Outreach (food bank, senior visits)
- Sunrise Support
- Using social media to connect globally eg. #PSD70
- Combination of fundraising and inviting the community to our school
- Good communication with community & municipal partners & politicians
- Work Experience, RAP programs, bring speakers in, students out visiting businesses
- Threat Risk Assessment protocol developments – working with interagency partners to develop a strong support system
- Staff accessing ERLC development
- Classroom blogs
- Resiliency
- Nutella – grant support for breakfast program
- Partnership Breakfast
- AISI – many presentations (provincial, parents, schools, Board)
- Surveys to student needs and where they're at with technology
- School Board meetings (SP & SG Mayors and Parkland County)
- System Review process (grass roots involvement, willingness to adapt to community feedback, enhances trust through transparency)
- 184 Project (takes ideas from everybody, allows whole world to connect with our kids & division, generates excitement & engagement)
- E.A. Boot Camp
- P/S/T Conferences
- Interact with Rotary & Chamber
- Inviting community members to school functions
- Thank-you pancake breakfast
- More emails to parents is increasing communication
- CAVE, Original Joes, student assemblies, concerts, school council
- Collaboration of community resources (PEASHIP, FCSS, AHS) to support families
- Weekly newsletters have increased communication between school & parents
- Community Partnerships (strong connections to support our students – FCSS, Big Sisters, Big Brothers, Young Life, Youth in Action)
- Communication Director position (better messaging, active & consistent messaging, multiple formats reaching wider audience, professional appearance)

#### Priority Four – Stewardship of Our Resources

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- Department streamlining
- Central billing
- PLC
- Working on ways of making technology accessible to our students
- Switching up the time of our school council meetings (days & evenings)
- Facilities re-vamp in house
- Sustainable funding
- Grade Level meetings
- Strengthening departments to provide superior service to schools & families (eg. Tech Dept., L.S., H.R. etc)
- Group/School purchases
- AISI Projects
- PD Days/Sessions
- IPP Committee – reviewing paperwork and processes to ensure streamlining. (have eliminated or combined forms)

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### Feedback from table groups about how the new mission and vision is coming to life in the schools:

- Gail
  - Brings everyone together with a focus that has spread into the community and the division
    - Moves from how does it involve me to the impact on the community
- Diane L. – focus on Student success
  - Resiliency project
  - Learning coaches
  - Division based teams (including SLP and OT)
  - Use of the ipad and other learning technologies to support student learning
- Colleen W.
  - Division mission and vision has come to us and embraces all of the work we're doing
- Randy
  - Represents a change in mind-set for staff and parents and students
    - Changes how we view education and gives us control over education and how we're going to help kids learn
      - That's why this is year one – we need to continue to adjust our vision
- Margaret
  - Is about giving kids the accountability for their own learning
    - Cross-graded groupings
    - Flexibility
- Carolyn Jensen
  - Collaboration
  - Community
    - Schools invite parents in for lunch hour clubs
    - Structure around building learning environments for learning groups and subjects
    - Programs that connect kids and establish relationships
      - Building community and bringing the homes into the schools
    - Critical thinking is about collaboration and learning
- Leslie K.
  - Collaboration
  - We-Day and awareness of social justice – Leader in Me fits in well with that
    - Is a vehicle to articulate citizenship
- Archie
  - No longer talking about individual schools – talking about a division focus
    - Has changed to a collaborative focus
- Shaye
  - Priority areas
    - Engaging community in citizenship and social justice projects that brings the community into the school
    - Technology to connect students with the global community and share their learning with peers and others while they're gone
      - Facebook
      - Twitter
  - New vision has enabled schools to be willing to take risks and try new and different things that they would not have tried prior

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- **Progress and Accomplishments on the Four Priority Areas**

- Engaging our Students
  - AISI project on Critical Thinking
    - Students are invited to think critically about the content they are learning
    - The added component of assessment as learning helps students learn where they are at in the learning process and how that metacognition makes them more powerful and successful as learners
  - Student Advisory Committee
    - Advises the Board regularly
      - Student “my teacher is getting better at using these strategies”
      - Student “my teachers are all over this and are using this all the time”
      - Critical thinking helps us not only think critically, but helps us to use our brain 100% of the time”
  - Innovation Week at Greystone Centennial Middle School
    - Expected 30 students to be keen but had 260 students who participated actively
      - Had to create a learning plan that was approved by staff
      - Had to make a connection to student outcomes
        - Meaningful and engaging curriculum
- Engaging our Staff
  - Brings value to our core business of supporting students
  - Transferring custodians to new schools
  - Learning Services Professional Learning Opportunities
    - Book study on supporting students with autism
- Engaging our Community
  - Community partnerships
  - Wraparound services
  - Partnership Breakfast
  - Work to intentionally invite others to partner and support the educational process
- Enhancing the Stewardship of our Resources
  - Centralizing school generated funds to alleviate some of the work at schools and streamlined processes
    - Saved money and saved time and saved lots of paper
  - Departments working together to streamline processes

- **Advice to the Board**

- Keep the momentum going through prudent management of “the Plan”
- Build on existing initiatives ensuring communication with parents and community with parameters well defined
- Use a forward-thinking model
  - Borrowing for the future
  - Plan for long-term but also for present
- Involve extended members of our community
- Use the abundance mindset – not scarcity
- Hopeful thinking
  - Bringing youth into 21<sup>st</sup> century
  - Consider the private sector and what a valuable resource this is
- Continuing community engagement (board and school level) ( business, non-profit, bring entire PSD community together)

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- Emphasize sustainability
  - Focus on existing initiatives, not add-ons
- Collaboration – engage staff
  - Structured, focused opportunities for staff to work together and learn together (division PD, open to community)
- Focus and support for student wellness and resiliency (mental, physical, wraparound)
- Student advisory needs to stay
  - Perhaps needs to be held at some other venue sometimes (west end)
- Find a way for students, staff, parents to visit other schools in an organized, structured way
- Multi-disciplinary team in schools (site-based)
  - Behavior specialist/SLP
- Site-based mental health support
- Crisis support – timely manner (advocacy)
- Class size funding review
- Division-wide behavior capacity building
- Focus on existing initiatives without adding new
- Continue to support the resiliency project
- Find ways in the reduced funding scenarios to maintain the learning coach initiative
- Investigate methods to measure the new mission and vision given that PATs and DIPs and other existing measures seem inadequate
- Maintain and enhance the public contact and communication of the mission and vision
  - Visibility
- Direct interaction of trustees at schools beyond their own yard and with school councils.
  - Increases board perspective and invigorates discussion at school council.
- Continue emphasis on staff PD
- Increased frequency of PD (collaboration opportunities)
- Guaranteed return two-year (?) secondment (Inter-school teacher exchanges)
- Creating greater opportunities for personalized learning and choice (art programs, sports, music, language)
- Creating capacity in the area of giftedness
- Recognize workloads for all stakeholders
- FNMI awareness
- Reporting beyond PAT results
- Bridging home school with second language learners
- Access to technology
- Support and encourage various strategies for school councils and parental engagement
- In addition to the current reporting of test scores, a focus on sharing and reporting meaningful data around critical thinking, innovation, creativity, self-assessment, social responsibility.
- Continue to foster an environment of innovation on all levels
- Continue to work on and promote open and honest dialogue = Maintain transparency = continue to trust front line staff
- Keep working with and staying connected to Alberta Education and informing stakeholders
- Keep the same focus re: vision, mission
- Continue student advisory
- Continue board visits to schools, events
- Continue to support innovation and creativity
- Continue to seek opportunities for dual credentials/credits